

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMS,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: On behalf of the members of the National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHELP). I am writing to enthusiastically support House Resolution 273. Our members help millions of students fund higher education each year. We agree with you that it is more important than ever that students and their families have the information and tools necessary to make good financial decisions.

NCHELP members support and share the goal of House Resolution 273 to increase financial literacy among all Americans and to raise public awareness about the importance of a sound financial education. Our members provide information and training to college-bound students all around the country on topics like managing credit and checking accounts, basic credit and budgeting concepts, and personal financial management, better preparing these students to make good financial decisions and borrow responsibly. Materials are made available in Spanish and other languages where needed to ensure all Americans receive this important information on college access and financial literacy. Our members also partner with organizations like the JumpStart Coalition, Junior Achievement and 360 Degrees of Financial Literacy to promote financial education to middle and high school students.

I thank you both for your continued leadership of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus and pledge that the members of NCHELP stand ready to assist you and your colleagues in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

BRETT E. LIEF,
President.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I was not present for several votes on April 17. I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 216 on H. Con. Res. 100, condemning actions of the Government of Zimbabwe, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 217 on H. Res. 273, Financial Literacy Month, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 218 on H. Con. Res. 76, International Geophysical Year, I would have voted "yea."

HAILING THE PATRIOTIC SERVICE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last fall roughly 100 high school students applied to serve on the Third Congress-

sional District's Congressional Youth Advisory Council. A panel of community leaders nominated 43 high school students attending public, private and home schools based on academic achievement, community service, student leadership, outside interests, and the application essay. These 43 have done an outstanding job serving as the voice of their generation. I fondly call this distinguished group "young ambassadors to Congress."

Civil service among young adults remains the cornerstone of our future. These dynamic students are leaders of their peers and achievers in and out of the classroom. They are the future of America and hold tremendous promise. They sacrificed their time to boldly share their hopes and their dreams for our Nation. They should be proud of their commitment and commended for their work.

This year, the members of the CYAC wrote a patriotic essay detailing, "My dream for America" or "The cost of freedom." The country and the Congress must know that high school students in North Texas firmly believe in this mighty Nation and express great optimism for the future. I gladly entrust it to them—the leaders of tomorrow. Their names are listed forever in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Their country needs them to stand up, speak out, and continue to make a difference in their communities. They are the young leaders who help make America great. God bless you, God bless Texas and God bless America.

Freshmen: James "Wil" Callison and Ian Webber.

Sophomores: John Lipscomb, Evan Rosenfield, Sharan Shetty, and Melissa Stepczyk.

Juniors: Caroline Alvarez, Morgan Bailey, Anna Bashmakov, Susie Choi, Abigail Dekle, Patrick Dyer, John Hollingsworth, Emily Kaufman, Kristy Luk, James MacGibbon, Charlie Manion, Meredith Morgan, Jason Palmatary, David Paxman, Andrew Pedigo, Nirjhor Rahman, and Spencer Wood.

Seniors: Lynzee Benoit, Yoojin Cho, Alyssa DeLorenz, Erik De Sousa, Andrew Graham, Luke Gunderson, Kelli Lafferty, Amanda Lipscomb, David Michael McCleary, Brendan O'Kelly, Benjamin Oppenheim, Rachel Reichenbach, Catherine Russell, Elizabeth Sanford, Jordan Schmittou, Hannah Sedlet, Hansini Sharma, Jennifer Smart, Britney Thomas, and Evan Wise.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SANDRA LEE THOMPSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Sandra Lee Thompson for her commitment and dedication to the Las Vegas community and being selected by the Clark County School Board to have an elementary school named in her honor.

Sandra Lee Thompson was born in Hanover, Pennsylvania in 1948 and was one of six children. She attended DeLone Catholic High School and then graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a degree in Social Work. She began her career as a reporter in Connecticut, where she met her husband Gary

Thompson in 1973. The couple had one daughter, Kelly, who was the pride and joy of her parents. In 1978, Sandra and her husband moved to Las Vegas and began a long career with the Las Vegas Sun Newspaper. Sandra started out working as a copy and features editor and eventually became managing editor. In 1997, she was promoted to Vice President/Associate Editor for the Las Vegas Sun.

While working for the Las Vegas Sun, Sandra was able to incorporate her love for children into her job. She held hands-on workshops for local high school students at the Sun Youth Forum and she routinely lectured in schools around the valley to educate youth on the field of journalism. Sandra spent the last five years of her career focusing on issues relating to children and families. She was the only journalist in the state to write regularly about children and family issues. Her unwavering commitment to families earned her a reputation for being "the voice of the children" in Nevada. Sandra's efforts to draw attention to important family issues led to legislative changes in child welfare programs and an increase in the cap on child support payments.

Sandra's commitment to children and the family permeated her life. She was truly dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth. In addition to her professional commitment to these issues, she was actively involved in a variety of community organizations and service projects. She focused much of her time in Clark County mentoring students and encouraging them to succeed. She actively participated in projects such as the Las Vegas Sun Camp Fund, Christmas in April, Children's Advocacy Alliance, Clark County Family Court, Raising Nevada and Class! Publications. Additionally, her leadership on the subject of children and family inspired the creation of a scholarship program for Class! Publications and the Mother of the Year Contest.

On August 9th, 2002, Sandra tragically died in an automobile accident. She left a lasting legacy of compassion, service and devotion to children. Her leadership and her steadfast commitment to enriching the lives of others have truly made a difference in Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Sandra Lee Thompson for her profound commitment to children and the family. I am proud that the Clark County School District has chosen to recognize her outstanding contribution to Clark County by naming the Sandra Thompson Elementary School in her honor. I wish the Thompson family and the students, teachers, and administrators at Thompson Elementary the very best as they celebrate the dedication of this special school. I am certain that this educational establishment will live up to the legacy Sandra Thompson has left behind.

HONORING THE MIDDLE COUNTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a respected and important landmark in the First Congressional District, the Middle Country Public Library.